WRL News

Number 203 War Resisters League Nov. - Dec. 1977

Staff members Jo Moody, Jim Peck and Ralph DiGia, flank Joan Roca, a visiting CO from Spain on a vigil line at the Argentine Mission to the UN, urging freedom for Adolfo Perez Esqivel. Adolfo, coordinator of a group which links nonviolent groups in Latin America, has been imprisoned since April 4 on charges of "subversive activity." Photo by David McReynolds.

Freedom for Adolpho Perez

Adolfo Perez Esquivel, coordinator of Servicio Paz y Justicia in Buenos Aires, Argentina, was arrested April 4 when he presented himself at the Central Police Headquarters in that city for his passport. He was to tour Latin America in preparation for the ISTNA conference held this summer at Cuernavaca. Servicio is the agency coordinating nonviolent action, training and propaganda in Latin America. WRL and several other groups sponsored three days of demonstrations for Adolfo at the Argentine Consulate in June. Repeated appeals to Argentine officials here and in Buenos Aires went unacknowledged.

On October 14 WRL and FOR cosponsored a demonstration for Adolfo's release at the Argentine Mission to the U.N., in a chill rain. A telegram to the Embassy resulted in an invitation to send three representatives to talk with Mission staff. Tom Cornell of FOR, Patricia Conway of AFSC staff and Jim O'Callaghan of CALC staff spent 90 minutes speaking to Mr. Fernando Petrella of the staff and to a senior minister from Buenos Aires, Mr. Juan Carlos Arlia. This was a sign of hope in itself.

WRL members are urged to write to Fernando Petrella at the Argentine Mission to the U.N., One U.N. Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10017. Tell him you have heard from the WRL of the generous consideration we were given, thank him for that, and urge as strongly as you can Adolfo's release. His case is being reconsidered. There are no charges against him, simply an accusation that he is a "subversive." A decision will be made *by the end of this month*. So please act swiftly!

Mobilization Report

By David McReynolds

Meeting in New York City November 4 through 7, the National Coordinating Committee of the Mobilization for Survival made the first major decisions on the Spring Agenda. The Coordinating Committee, a small but broadly representative body, brought together three persons from the West Coast, two from the South, in addition to a dozen or more from the Mid West and East Coast—carefully balanced so that all parts of the country and the full range of opinion within the Mobilization for Survival could be heard.

Plans were completed for the National Conference in Chicago on December 2-4. The January WRL News will carry a report on that Conference, to which WRL is sending a full delegation. It will interest readers to know that international groups plan to send representatives to Chicago to take part in the conference.

The main importance of the weekend was setting up the Spring Agenda. During the week of March 26 to April 2 communities across the country are urged to focus attention on shifting funds from the military section of the federal budget into badly needed social spending for the urban areas.

By working with Mayors and City Councils, and trade union and social justice groups, as well as minorities and the elderly, it is believed very strong pressure can be brought on the Carter Administration to slash military spending (now slated to rise

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The Middle East Today

By Allan Solomonow

If Jimmy Carter's scenario for a reconvened Geneva Conference goes according to schedule, within weeks we will see Israeli Jews sitting down with Arab leaders, perhaps even with some token Palestinians, to spar over how to move towards some new stage of peace settlement. If achieved, this feat alone will be significant, but symbolic. Whatever follows might either zig-zag towards peace or towards a chasm leading to another war. American pressure is the dominant influence and, within America, the dominant cry is for Carter to not exert the pressures essential to peace.

For years it has been hard for Americans to understand the Middle East conflict fully. We have been reluctant to tell Arabs and Israelis what they must do for peace. Now in 1977, the United States is in the middle of the conflict. We are the major arms supplier to both Israel and the Arab nations, the major investor and recipient of oil, the initiator of the Sinai Accords. Finally, the Middle East is an issue on which Carter has been consistently clear: the Palestinian people and their right to self-determination must be a part of the negotiating process. For having shown this courage, he is now under concerted attack from the American Jewish community.

The initiative of the American peace community may well be a critical factor in providing the popular support needed at the Geneva Conference and whatever negotiations emerge from it. In fact, it is rare for peace activists to be in a position where we are a credible voice around which Americans can gather on a major foreign policy issue; moreover, an issue with direct interconnections to our primary peace concern: disarmament.

Why the peace community has difficulty with the Middle East

Potentially, the Middle East would seem designed to command a clear response from peace activists. Here, in one region, are to be found violations of human rights, the clash of two movements of "national liberation," a magnet for world terrorism, American imperial interests working in collaboration with reactionary regimes to control world energy, and the unprecedented sale of advance weaponry augmented by nuclear weaponry. International peace work has rarely escaped a link with the Middle East conflict and its ramifications. The Middle East is ordinarily treated as a separate arena of conflict in international work. In fact, more than almost any other conflict, its ramifications have an impact on virtually every other major issue of international peace.

Our work on the Mobilization for Survival is a case in point. As pressures mount for world disarmament, the absence of the Middle East in arms discussion leaves a feeling of unreality regarding our commitment. The Middle East is far and away the most over-armed arena in the Third World. American and Soviet strategic interests are in direct confrontation over the world's major oil reserves. Over half of all world military sales go to the Middle East. In fiscal 1977 America sent 63% of all foreign military sales to Arab and Middle East nations. Of this, half went just to Israel, Saudi Arabia and Iran. Those critical of disarmament cite the Middle East as the leading example of the need for expanded arms production not merely to preserve American power, but to get back some of the money now going to the Arab oil states and to provide jobs for our flagging economy.

These are all logical but not necessarily convincing reasons. Historically, the peace community tends not to choose its own issues. Our response is often limited to what is most in the headlines and thus likely to garner financial support. Frequently we respond only to crisis situations, when it is easiest to raise money and support, but when our principles have the least impact on the situation.

We have become accustomed to avoiding the Middle East. It is too complex...our Jewish and/or Arab friends will will betrayed and play upon our guilt...and the price is too high: the once sympathetic American Jewish community has cut off monies for the peace community as a consequence of this single issue. We must now face a challenge formerly kept in the closet. Can we summon the energy and resources to influence a critical international issue at a time when our principles and program have direct and perhaps crucial impact.

How has the Middle East changed?

The Middle East might have seemed remote to the peace community, if events had not conspired to take some remarkable turns in 1977. A rigid political situation has given way to a fluid, potentially more hopeful one.

Israel and the American Jewish community have moved to the right, thereby reducing the acceptability of their demands on the United States and the rest of the world. Israel's right-wing Likud government supports the absorption of the "liberated territories", while opposing the creation of a Palestinian State or any negotiations with the PLO. In doing this, Israel has taken on the appearance of the Arab charicature of Israel long ridiculed by people around the world: a nation that is expansionist, militarist and intransigent. Fears of American "coercion" towards an insecure "peace" have consolidated support in Israel and the American Jewish Community. This Orwellian embracement of a party previously discounted if not ridiculed by American Jews is now the strongest pressure against the Carter initiative for a Geneva-forged peace.

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HOORAY! THE WRL PAINT JOB IS COMPLETED!

The painters, left to right: Sybil Claiborne, William Douthard, Grace Hedemann, Jo Moody, Ralph DiGia, Murray Rosenblith, Jim Peck, Karl Bissinger and Jim Moses. Photo by David McReynolds.

THE ONE TIME WHEN MONEY IS THE RIGHT GIFT

How often we know we have failed when we send a holiday check to someone we love. Someone who was special, that we wanted to send a gift that smelled of pine, green as holly is green, carefully wrapped in memories from childhood. And time ran out, or imagination failed, and off went the thin envelope with a check.

But there *is* one place and one time when a check or money order is a gift of magic and delight. **Send it to WRL.** Not only does the staff open those business reply envelopes with the excitement of children, hoping that as we go to our private holidays, we will know most of the year's bills will be paid, *but* the people we owe the money are often movement people, counting on their checks from us. So your gift at this season may, magically as the holiday itself, become a toy, a roast duck, a rich eggnog, the final trim for some family tree.

War Tax Resistance

By Ed Hedemann

Candidate Carter promised "zero nuclear weapons" and a $6 billion reduction in the Defense budget. *President* Carter has approved the development of the neutron bomb, proposed a 26% spending increase for nuclear weapons, increased the Defense budget by $6 billion, and has projected a $48 billion (39%) increase in the Defense budget over the next five years—a projection greater than that made by President Ford.

What is our response? Protest and resistance! We must protest this continuing government policy of increasing spending for the military while cutting back on domestic programs. Three possible ways to do this, besides writing letters of protest, is to not pay your Federal war taxes, organize actions on April 15, and participate in the Mobilization for Survival "Save Our Communities" week next Spring.

War Resistance

The usual problem most people have in not paying income taxes is

getting the opportunity not to pay. With the advent of the withhodling system, employees first see their check after money has been taken out and sent to the government. There are several methods to prevent this withholding. A good account of these methods is available in the publication *Still Ain't Gonna Pay for War No More,* issued by the Minnesota WTR and available from WRL.

For those who actually "owe" the IRS money on April 15, the least that can be done is to include a card (available from WRL) with or instead of your income tax form, protesting how tax money is spent. Refusing a token amount (e.g., $5) makes the protest more visible. And refusing to pay half or all that is due makes a protest which cannot be ignored.

Tax resistance is not without risks, since the government frowns on such extra-legal activity. However, if we are committed to making fundamental changes in society, we have to be willing to take risks now and then. If you are seriously interested in tax resistance, write to WRL for an informational brochure.

One important aspect of not paying taxes to the government is to reroute such unpaid money to community or other constructive programs. There exist about a dozen "People's Life Funds"

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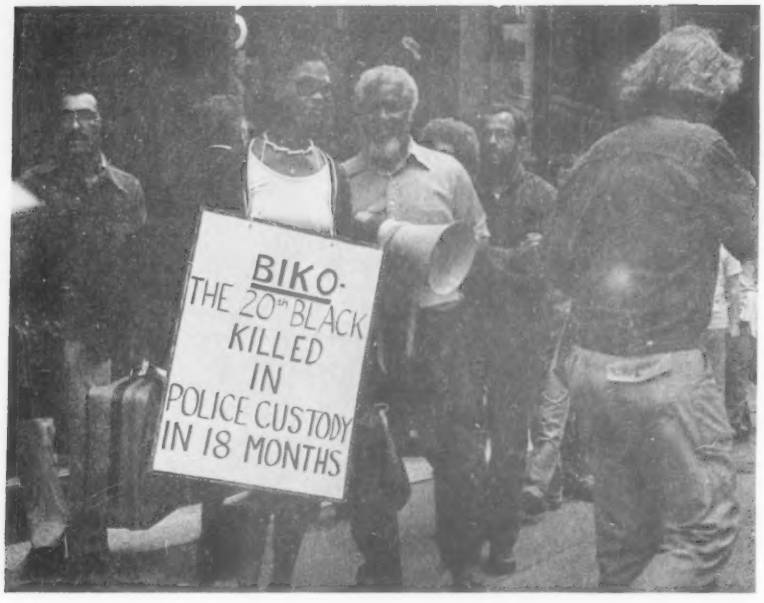
Protest Biko Murder



Some 60 persons picketed the South African Mission to the UN protesting the killing, while in police custody, of Steve Biko, outstanding spokesman for the forces of nonviolent action in South Africa. William Douthard, WRL executive committee member, organized the coalition conducting the demo. Photo by Karl Bissinger.

FREE...

WRLers who have a copy of Jim Peck's autobiography, **Underdogs Versus Upperdogs** may obtain, free, a supplemental chapter updating it through the 1977 Hiroshima Peace Walk, in which for the first time, Americans participated. Peck walked all the way from Nagasaki to Hiroshima—about 360 miles.....☐

FOR $1.50...

WRLers who do NOT have the book can buy one, including the new chapter mentioned above. The book is a personal account of nonviolent direct action over the years through the eyes of an active participant. All proceeds go to WRL.....☐

Name_____

Address_____

City_____

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Carter and the Arms Race

By Patrick Lacefield

The sage wisdom that "good words are worth much and cost little" seems to have been taken to heart by the Carter Administration as we evaluate its spotty and disappointing record on issues of disarmament and military spending up to this point.

In assessing the performance of the Carter Administration up to this point we should examine closely the areas of military spending, weapons systems, procurement, U.S. arms sales abroad, and the American-Soviet deadlock on the SALT talks:

Military spending. Although his testimony before the Democratic Party platform committee asserted that "without endangering the defense of our nation or commitments to our allies, we can reduce present defense expenditures by about $5-7 billion annually," President Carter has obviously renounced this pledge. The Administration rammed through a somewhat reluctant and surprised Congress a Defense budget of $122.3 billion—over $12 billion *more* than the previous year under Gerald Ford.

Even more incredible was the release, on July 1, by the Carter Administration of its long-range economic assumptions and budget projections. These projections indicate that Carter seeks to increase the military budget by 48% between 1978-82 while reducing federal assistance to state and local governments, restraining other forms of domestic spending, and providing no funding for the new initiatives needed for such programs as national health insurance, aid to the cities, welfare reform and more. Even with an expansive budget (which is a question mark at this point considering Carter's pledge to balance the budget and the current sluggish rate of economic growth), these projections are extremely restrictive and will serve, if implemented, to exacerbate the continuing dilemma of "guns versus butter" and may well sound the death knell for programs of full employment, public investment, and the redistribution of wealth and power which we of the Democratic Left so heartily support. The Administration projections reveal, contrary to protestations by Carter himself, that these dramatic increases in military spending outstrip even the excessive Defense budgets projected by President Ford shortly before he left office.

Weapons systems procurement. President Carter entered office at a time when a whole host of new

continued on next page

Patrick Lacefield is on the WIN staff and is active in WRL.

weapons systems—a new generation as it were—stood at a point where tough decisions had to be arrived at as to exactly which system to promote for advanced development and deployment. These decisions, on which hinge the choice of either further escalation of the arms race or genuine initiative toward arms control with the Soviets, are only beginning to be addressed and extensive confusion exists as the Administration seeks to determine how strictly they will bind together pragmatic decision-making with the lofty rhetoric and goals espoused by President Carter.

A case in point is the Administration decision to cancel the B-1 bomber program. That decision resulted from an intensive four year battle waged by the Stop the B-1 Bomber Campaign, a coalition of peace, environmental, church, and labor groups against the weapons system (including the WRL). Over the past four years, public resistance had grown against the B-1, which came to symbolize the distorted national priorities of the Nixon/Ford Administration; a January Harris poll showed 44% of the American people opposed to production of the B-1 as compared to 27% in favor, and public demonstrations against the B-1 occurred in over 100 cities in January to remind Carter that during the campaign he had denounced the B-1 as "a system which should not be funded and is wasteful of taxpayers' dollars."

In the end, of course, President Carter did announce the scrapping of the B-1 bomber program much to the dismay of the Air Force (who sought the added prestige of a new manned bomber), the "defense" industries (whose millions of dollars in propaganda and high-pressure lobbying was for naught), and the hawks in Congress. However, once the liberals in the Congress and the anti-B-1 coalition recovered from their jubilation over Carter's surprise move, many came to the realization of how hollow their victory actually was. Carter did not make his decision based on the "human needs vs. weapons" ideology advanced by the Stop the B-1 Campaign and its Congressional allies, but rather the decision seemed narrowly technicratic—defined in terms of cost-effectiveness and strategic strength—with an element of politics mixed in since Carter did not wish to be perceived as disavowing the anti-B-1 themes he echoed throughout the presidential campaign.

In addition, and most importantly, the demise of the B-1 did not signal an acceleration in American efforts to reach substantive arms control accords. In fact, quite the contrary. By substituting the cruise missile in place of the B-1 as "more bangs for the buck," the Carter Administration tossed a new wrench into efforts to negotiate on a SALT II agreement with the Soviets. Essentially a small pilotless aircraft which carries a thermonuclear warhead, the cruise flies at low altitudes and is, accordingly, a challenge to Soviet air defenses, a selling point which appeals to many hawks and erstwhile liberals in Congress. The cruise, however, presents arms controls negotiators with an incredible and nearly impossible problems as to verification of numbers and ranges of the missiles.

The next substantial fight over weapons systems procurement in the Congress and the public arena promises to be over the Administration's push for development of the MX missile. Only two days after President Carter, in addressing the United Nations on October 4, offered reciprocal reductions of up to 50% in strategic weapons in order to "express his strong commitment to arms control", a more telling example of that commitment was unveiled with the announcement by Secretary Brown of the Administration's intent to approve full-scale development of the MX, a new mobile intercontinental ballistic missile. MX missiles will cost $100 million each, or $30 billion for the entire program, and move around in underground trenches 20-30 miles long in order to cut down on what the Pentagon considers the "vulnerability" of the present U.S. ICBM force. In addition to the paucity of evidence indicating the Soviets have the capability to eliminate our fixed ICBM sites, the question is moot since the strength of the U.S. nuclear triad lies in our virtually invulnerable submarine-based missiles, a force which alone can assure the destruction of the world several times over.

The twisted logic of the arms race and the illogic of weapons procurement is well-represented by the present furor over the

continued on next page

HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN SOMEBODY'S HOLIDAY GIFT?

At the last minute, you can "resort to":

1. **NONVIOLENT STRUGGLE AROUND THE WORLD**, the 1978 Peace Calendar containing photos and articles on outstanding and unusual nonviolent direct action projects in many countries. $3.25 apiece, $12 for 4. . . . . ☐

2. **THE CONTINENTAL WALK BOOK**, a quality photo-history of the Continental Walk for Disarmament & Social Justice. $4.50. . . . . ☐

3. **THE POWER OF THE PEOPLE**, a superb photo-history of nonviolent direct action in America from the 17th century until the latter 20th. $7.95 (paperback), $15 (hardcover). . . . . ☐

Name _____

Address _____

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State _____ Zip _____

Carter and the Arms Race continued

neutron bomb. Although the Pentagon and its allies claim that the neutron bomb, as a tactical nuclear weapon, will deter a Soviet blitzkrieg of Western Europe, our allies there have demonstrated a notable lack of enthusiasm since it is their countryside and populace that would be ravaged by such a weapon.

Though President Carter will soon have the final word on this weapons system, it was quite discouraging to witness only ninety votes cast against the neutron bomb in the House of Representatives. This does not augur well for hopes that the Congress will play a constructive role in disarmament and arms control efforts.

Arms Sales: As a candidate Jimmy Carter was quick to assail the Ford Administration for their cynical and destabilizing advocacy of massive arms sales to nations all around the globe. As president, Carter announced in May that his Administration would make strenuous efforts to control arms exports and that such sales would be "an exceptional foreign policy implement" so that the U.S. would no longer be known as the arms merchant of the world. Alas, here again the rhetoric has fallen far short of performance. As one Congressional staffer put it, "No one knows what's going on, how the arms policy is being implemented. There's a stated policy, but constant exceptions to it."

There in lies the problem. In the guidelines which have been set up, the Carter Administration makes exceptions to its policy of arms "restraint" for NATO nations, Israel, the several billion dollars already contracted but not yet delivered (from the Ford Administration), military service contracts (which supply U.S. personnel to train natives in the use of particular weapons systems). This leaves only about 25% of arms sales subject to arms sales restraints and even then President Carter reserves the right, if "national security" demands it, to make exceptions.

In the first four months of the Carter Administration, over $4 billion in arms sales were contracted as political realities and economic interests of arms manufacturers far outstripped the principled position on which President Carter was elected.

The future of the SALT Talks. It is some sort of reflection on the efficiency of the SALT talks that few reacted with trepidation when the SALT I limitations on strategic nuclear weapons expired in October. One reason for the lack of concern is the probability of U.S. Soviet agreement on a new pact by the end of this year or the beginning of next which will reduce slightly the limits on strategic delivery vehicles while continuing to sanction quantitative levels higher than present levels. Like the SALT I Agreement, this pact will almost surely mandate no actual arms reduction or program cancellation and thus is compatible with the respective military programs of both the United States and the Soviet Union.

Herein lies the problem with SALT. Talks are conducted in the context of an escalating arms race rather than in the context of a serious commitment towards disarmament. As a result: symmetrical equivalency causes weapons limits to be set too high, weapons are developed as bargaining chips for the next round of negotiations (this is how the cruise missile was promoted in 1972), and the role of the military complex in decisionmaking processes is heightened to an unhealthy level. SALT ceilings are

The bottom line on current efforts towards arms control and disarmament seems clear: President Carter may be sincere in speaking for disarmament but he wants to reduce weapons on terms favorable to U.S. political power, including the power to intervene throughout the world if necessary. Future U.S. SALT proposals will be compatible with this overall context and thus, while using SALT as a vehicle, we should harbor no excessive expectations regarding its efficiency. Bold, ground-breaking unilateral initiatives must be undertaken by the United States so that the increasingly dangerous drift towards nuclear war and excessive military spending at the expense of vital social needs might be arrested before our time runs out.

EC and NC Nominations—Deadline December 19

WRL members are invited to nominate candidates for the executive and national committee. Only persons in the New York City area should be nominated for the executive committee since they must be able to attend monthly meetings in this area. Members outside the New York City area may be nominated for the national committee. The person you nominate for the national committee should come from your own area—West, Midwest, South or East. Please submit nominations to the office by December 19.

WRL STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The War Resisters League affirms that war is a crime against humanity. We therefore are determined not to support any kind of war, international or civil, and to strive nonviolently for the removal of all the causes of war.

☐ I support this statement and wish to enroll as a member of the **War Resisters League**.

Signature.....

Address.....

City.....

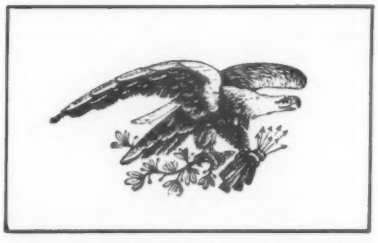
State.....Zip.....

Send to
War Resisters League
339 Lafayette Street
New York, N.Y. 10012

War Tax Resistance continued from page 3

around the country which were set up to explicity hold, loan, and grant resisted taxes. With just a handful of people, these funds can accumulate money rapidly. Write us if you are interested in setting up one in your area.

One simple and effective method of tax resistance is to refuse to pay the Federal excise tax on telephone service. Your phone wont't be disconnected if you explain to the telephone company that you are refusing the tax, not the bill. And the IRS seems to have made it a policy not to try to collect the tax anymore, unless the tax



due exceeds $100 or so. This, however, may depend on the individual IRS agent in charge.

April 14/15 Actions

Tax resistance is usually a very personal, moral act which sometimes takes a great deal of courage, unless there exists some mutual support from a community of resisters.

If tax resisters band together for a nonviolent direct action project, tax resistance becomes more effective and political. Such projects often require a lot of imagination because numbers of resisters and sympathizers are small.

Listed below are a few ideas which have been used in the past on such days as April 15:

- leaflet in front of the entrance of the IRS, Federal Building, or Post Office (for variation, try stapling a "tea bag" on each leaflet—these leaflets won't be thrown away)
- set up a wtr counselling table inside the building
- conduct a vigil with posters and leaflets
- stage a guerrilla theater skit inside or outside the building
- have a rally—speakers, music, donate resisted taxes to a community group
- place wtr literature on IRS shelves alongside the regular IRS literature
- rubber stamp IRS literature with "DON'T PAY" (etc.)
- distribute helium-filled balloons which read "don't pay war taxes" to people entering the building
- hang a banner stating "Don't pay death taxes" on the building
- paste up posters or other literature on building (early morning run might be safest).

Save Our Communities Week

The Mobilization for Survival is calling for March 26 through April 2 to be a period of intensified local action and education around funding human needs. Organizers will be encouraged to submit resolutions to city councils and circulate petitions which will call for shifting money from the military to aiding people, as well as stopping nuclear power and developing alternative energy sources.

The "Peace Conversion" issue of WIN Magazine (October 6, 1977) contains a useful article on how to analyze the community outgo and income of Federal money. This will usually show a net drain of money from the communities to the Federal government. This sort of research makes convincing evidence for city council resolutions and citizens who might be encouraged to resist their taxes.

Ed Hedemann is on the WRL staff.

Clip and mail to War Resisters League, 339 Lafayette Street, New York, NY 10012.

I am interested in tax resistance and would like you to send the following:

☐ Tax Resistance Kit (includes 1 wtr information brochure, 1 income tax card, 12 telephone tax cards, 1 button, 1 three-color poster) at $1.50 per Kit

☐ WTR information brochure.

☐ Still Ain't Gonna Pay for War No More at 50¢ each

☐ brochure on MfS Save Our Cities Week

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Middle East Today continued from page 2

Carter's own acceptance of the crucial role of the Palestinians, is as surprising a change in American policy as Likud was for Israel. Although important ambiguities remain in the policy, the Middle East conflict is now a clear issue in this country; it challenges Israeli intransigence which is echoed by many American Jews against Carter's moment of truth.

Even those of us who after years of effort had reconciled ourselves to a marginal commitment from the peace community, now see the opportunity for a change in the pacifist attitude towards the Middle East. Now is the time for a new plea, one for concerted education and action for Middle East Peace—Now!

We need a cooperative effort to bring together all parties including the PLO, to the conference table to negotiate for peace without preconditions, based upon the principles of mutual self-determination, justice and equality, and a true security free of imperial arms and oil. It is time for the peace community to take the initiative with its own views, and to provide a place where Americans can come and work for a Middle East where Jews and Palestinians can live in peace and freedom.

Allan Solomonow is on the WRL Executive Committee.

Mobilization Report continued from page 1

sharply in the next fiscal year) and shift those funds to social services.

During April—on a date not yet finally set—there will be a national focus on Rocky Flats, in Colorado. Rocky Flats is quite literally a "nuclear bomb factory," originally managed by Dow Chemical and now operated by Rockwell International. There have already been serious leaks of radioactivity from the storage facilities there and people from throughout the country are asked to send delegations to support a clearly nonviolent direct action which will say two things, first that we support the people of Colorado who want this plant closed down immediately as a major hazard to the lives of people in that area. And second, that we do not want it moved into our communities. AFSC and FOR have taken the leading role in developing the Rocky Flats action—which had already won WRL support and is now a project of the Mobilization for Survival. The exact date for the April action will be at the national conference.

Finally, the Coordinating Committee set the Memorial Day Weekend of May 27-29 as a time for mass demonstrations in New York City in support of the Special Session on Disarmament which will be held by the United Nations. At the same time, the Coordinating Committee issued a call for world wide actions in every national capital in support of the Special Session and against the military and nuclear policies of *every* nation, East or West. The Coordinating Committee heard reports from Terry Provance, of AFSC staff, who had been in Geneva for a meeting of Non-Governmental Organizations that work with the UN and he reported great enthusiasm there for the Mobilization. The German movement hopes to send as many as 200 persons to New York City for the May 27th action and the Japanese movement wrote WRL Chairwoman Norma Becker to inform her that 400 Japanese would be sent, carrying some 30,000,000 names on a petition they will present to the UN Secretary-General demanding nuclear disarmament.

The Coordinating Committee also voted not to sponsor any special action at nuclear power plants in order not to conflict with plans and projects being developed by the Clamshell Alliance, the Abalone Alliance, Sea Alliance, and various other regionally and locally based anti-nuclear power movements. The actions they call will be supported by the Mobilization for Survival.

War Resisters League has taken special responsibility for nonviolent direct actions related to—but not interfering with—the mass rally on May 27. A Task Force headed by WRL staff and working closely with other pacifist groups has already met several times on this and plans should be firm early in the year.

David McReynolds is on WRL staff and heads the International Task Force of the Mobilization for Survival.

MfS

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